estate development and construction, road transport, distributive trade, educational and health services and new emerging services, are the areas with sufficient employment potential.

(b) and (c) The industry-wise distribution of estimated employment as per survey carried out by National Sample Survey Organisation is given in the enclosed Statement (*See* below). Government has set-up the second National Commission on Labour to go into the details and *inter-alia* suggest measures which will also benefit the workers engaged in various activities in the unorganized sector.

Statement

The industry-wise distribution of estimated employment

Industry	*Employed workers 1999-2000 (Million)
Agriculture	237.56
Mining and Quarrying	2.27
Manufacturing	48.01
Electricity, gas and water supply	1.28
Construction	17.62
Trade	37.32
Transport, Storage and Communication	14.69
Financial Services	5.05
Community Social and Pers. Services	33.20
Total Employment	**397.00**

*As per Usual Principal and Subsidiary Status (UPSS) Approach.

Reduction in Unemployment Level

†568. SHRI D.P. YADAV: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether any effective policy is being worked out to reduce the unemployment level by incorporating amendments in labour laws; and

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI MUNI LALL): (a) and (b) Review and updation of labour laws to reduce inflexibilities in creation of new employment which is a continuous process and amendments/fresh legislations are made depending on the results of the review. A number of labour laws have been framed over a period of time to address a number of issues and problems that assumed importance and attracted pointed attention at a particular point of time. While many of these concerns are of continuing nature, some of them have ceased to be of erstwhile importance and may have indeed become obsolete and redundant. There is thus always a need to review comprehensively the labour laws so as to ensure both consistency of labour laws with the general changes taking place in the economic policy and also to provide for greater welfare of the workers. The Government have also set up the Second National Commission on Labour on 15.10.1999 which is comprehensively reviewing the labour laws and would suggest appropriate changes rationalisation of existing labour laws relating to labour in the organised sector and an umbrella legislation for ensuring a minimum level of protection to the workers in the unorganised sector.

Protection of interest of industrial workers

569. SHRI NANA DESHMUKH: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to protect interests of the industrial workers;

(b) if so, what step are being taken to attain the aforesaid objective; and

(c) whether their interest would be kept in mind while carrying out the amendments to the Contract Labour Act and the Industrial Disputes Act?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI MUNI LALL): (a) to (c) Various amendments to the Industrial Disputes Act, 1947 are proposed based on the requirements of the social partners and in consonance with economic reforms.

So far as amendments in the Contract Labour (Regulation and Abolition) Act, 1970 are concerned, the interests of workers in terms of their welfare,